

REMARKS

The Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter the presented amendments prior to the examination of the application. By way of the present response the Applicants have cancelled claims 18-37 without prejudice. As such, claims 1-17 and 38 are now pending. No new matter has been added.

The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application and the allowance of all claims.

COMMENTS

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would in any way expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Robert B. O'Rourke at (408) 720-8300.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated:

3/18/04



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